

Diet-treated chronic illness may lead to disordered eating

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"Future research is needed to elucidate the mechanisms that transform standard treatment practices into pathological eating, including characteristics and behaviors of the child, parents/care providers, family, and treatment providers," the authors write.

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(HealthDay)—Interventions for diet-treated chronic illnesses may increase the risk for disordered eating in children, according to a review published online Feb. 22 in the *International Journal of Eating Disorders*.

Jenny H. Conviser, Psy.D., from the Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine in Chicago, and colleagues conducted a systematic literature review to identify articles that examined the relation between diet-treated chronic illness (diabetes, cystic fibrosis, celiac disease, gastrointestinal disorders, and inflammatory bowel diseases) and [disordered eating](#) in children.

The researchers found that diet-treated chronic illness was associated with disordered eating and [eating disorders](#). In most studies, diet-treated chronic illness predated disordered eating, except with inflammatory bowel diseases. The risk for poor medical outcomes was heightened with disordered eating and unhealthy weight management practices in children.

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